



News Release

**US Army Corps
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Mississippi Valley Division

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Mississippi River Commission Building Wins Two Awards

Vicksburg, Miss., May 9, 2000 -- The Mississippi River Commission (MRC) Building, headquarters for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mississippi River Commission and Mississippi Valley Division, was recently selected for two awards.

Secretary of the Army Award

On May 3, 2000, the Honorable Mahlon Apgar, IV, Assistant Secretary of the Army, Installations and Environment, announced the winners of the Secretary of the Army Awards for Historic Preservation. The first-ever awards will be presented at a ceremony May 16 on Fort McNair, Washington, D.C.

The MRC Building was one of four winners, winning in the **Partnerships** category. This category recognizes Army entities and others that have assisted in providing joint programs to fund, rehabilitate or operate historic buildings. This building was rehabilitated with the assistance of the General Services Administration and the Mississippi State Historic Preservation Office.

The awards program is designed to recognize excellence in all aspects of managing historic buildings and districts located on active Army posts in the United States. Award activities and innovations may be performed solely by Army organizations or jointly between the Army and other public and private sector entities.

There are four categories for the Historic Preservation awards: Historic Districts, Historic Buildings, Innovations, and Partnerships.

Other winners included:

Historic District: Fort Riley, Kansas (U.S. Forces Command).

Historic Building: Roosevelt Hall, Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. (U.S. Army Military District of Washington).

Innovation: Fort McPherson, Georgia (U.S. Forces Command).

The awards were selected by a distinguished panel who represent several facets of historic preservation, including land planning and development, restoration and adaptive reuse, financing, design and construction, and public-private partnerships. Panel members included representatives of the National Trust for Historic Preservation, the General Services Administration, the American Institute of Architects, the President's Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the National Park Service and the U.S. Army.

TOBY Award

The second award, The Office Building of the Year Award (TOBY), was announced May 6, 2000, at the Building Owner's and Manager's Association's (BOMA) regional conference in Birmingham, Ala. The MRC Building won in the **Renovated Building** category.

After winning at the regional level, the MRC Building will now compete at the international level. Winners will be announced at the BOMA International Conference June 20, 2000, in San Diego, Calif.

BOMA is an independent organization, created in 1985 to recognize building achievements. BOMA grows every year by expanding the categories and including buildings from other countries.

